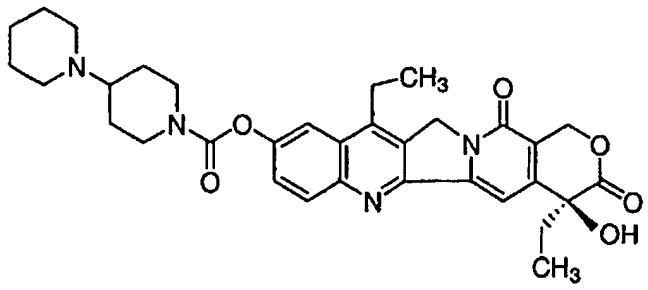
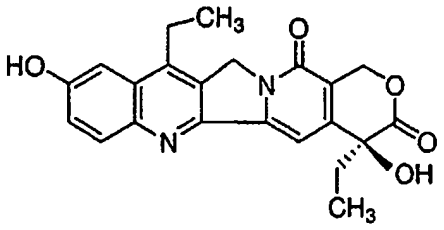
PATENT CLAIMS

1. A method of manufacturing of 7-ethyl-10-[4-(1-piperidino)-1-piperidino]-carbonyloxy-camptothecin of formula I



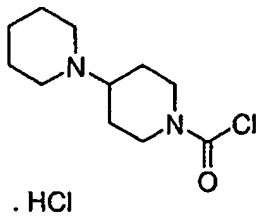
(I)

characterized in that 7-ethyl-10-hydroxycamptothecin of formula II



(II)

is subjected to a condensation reaction with 1-chlorocarbonyl-4-piperidinopiperidine hydrochloride of formula III



(III)

in a polar aprotic solvent, e.g. in acetonitrile, in the presence of 4-dimethylaminopyridine.

2. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that 1-chlorocarbonyl--4-piperidinopiperidine hydrochloride is employed in an amount of 1.3 to 3 mol, preferably in an amount of 1.6 to 1.9 mol, per 1 mol of 7-ethyl-10-hydroxycamptothecin.

3. The method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that 4-dimethylaminopyridine is employed in an amount of 1.5 to 4 mol, preferably in an amount of 1.8 to 2.2 mol, per 1 mol of 7-ethyl-10-hydroxycamptothecin.

4. The method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the polar aprotic solvent is employed in an amount of 400 to 600 mol, preferably in an amount of 430 to 460 mol, per 1 mol of 7-ethyl-10-hydroxycamptothecin.

5. The method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the condensation reaction is carried out at a temperature of 70 to 80 °C, preferably at a temperature of 73 to 77 °C.